# When is the last day to register online or by mail?

The last day to register by mail is Saturday, March 11, 2006. *Your registration must be post-marked by March 11, 2006.* The last day to register online is 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2006. The cost to pre-register is \$25.

### Can we sign up on the day of the event?

Yes, but the registration fee increases to \$35. Registration on the day of the event will be at Library Plaza, located at 500 McKinney Street. Pre-registered riders who have not already picked up their rider packets will still need to visit the check-in area at Library Plaza to pick up their packet.

### Can we pay with credit cards on the day of the event?

No. Only cash, checks or money orders can be accepted the day of the event. However, an ATM machine will be available on-site. Credit cards are accepted only for online registration.

## What time should we be on site to participate in the ride?

Provided that you are already registered, you can arrive on site at 7:00 a.m. and proceed directly to your ride staging area. If you must register that morning, you should plan to arrive by 6:00 a.m.

### Where will the start line for the ride be located?

Each route will begin on the corner of Smith and McKinney and end on Walker between Bagby and Smith. Each route will be staged in a different area around City Hall, and the earlier you arrive to line-up, the closer to the front of the ride you will be placed. The 70- and 40-mile routes will each be staged and started in four zones (see attached site map). You will only be allowed to enter your staging area through one entrance.

#### What are the start times for each route?

The 70-mile route will begin at 7:30 a.m., the 40-mile route at 7:45 a.m. and the 20-mile route at 8:00 a.m.

# Where is the free parking located for participants?

Free parking is located in the City of Houston C & H lots at 1500 Memorial Drive for vehicles with an overhead bike rack. Participants with trunk mounted bike racks can park in the Tranquillity Park underground parking garage located on Rusk Street at Bagby. A parking map will be included in your rider packet.

### When and where is packet pick-up?

Packet pick-up for registered participants will begin on Wednesday, March 15 and run through Friday, March 17 at the following locations:

# **Guaranty Bank (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)**

- Katy/Cinco Ranch location 23120 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
- Sugar Land location 14121 Southwest Freeway, Suite A
- Windmere location (northwest) 12145 FM 1960 West
- Spring location 21015 Kuykendal Rd.
- Kingwood location 1859 Kingwood Dr.
- Clear Lake location 1212 Bay Area Blvd.

# Sun & Ski Sports (10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

- Galleria/Briar Grove Shopping Center 6100 Westheimer
- Memorial City Mall 900 Gessner

# City Hall (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Visitor Information Center – 901 Bagby

# What do we need to bring with us on the day of the ride?

Bring your bike and riding gear. *It is strongly recommended that all participants wear a helmet.* If you are not pre-registered, you must also bring your \$35 registration fee in the form of cash, check or money order.

### Is the Guaranty Bank Tour de Houston a closed course?

**No**, this is an open ride. Rest assured, however, that law enforcement officers will be present at all major intersections to assist you, but please obey all rules of the road and remember that traffic will be all around you.

## What perks will be provided to the participants?

The first 5,000 participants will receive an official Guaranty Bank Tour de Houston t-shirt. Rider packets will also include promotional items from our participating sponsors, a rider pocket route map and important information pertaining to the ride. Rest stops will have power drinks, water, fruit and snacks. After the ride, Budweiser is hosting a party in Hermann Square that will include free beverages and music. A light lunch will also be provided in Hermann Square after the ride.

#### Is this a BP MS150 Recommended Ride?

Yes! All BP MS150 requisites will be strictly adhered to on the Guaranty Bank Tour de Houston ride.

### Will I get to ride with the Mayor?

Houston Mayor Bill White, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Alvarado, and Texas State Senator Rodney Ellis are the co-chairs for the event and will all be in attendance and participating.

### If we choose not to ride, can we help with the event?

Yes! Volunteers are always welcomed. Please visit the official website at <u>www.tourdehouston.org</u> and click on the volunteer link.